



OESNEWS

Governor's Office of Emergency Services

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OES Presents Fire Engines to Local Fire Departments Across the State

SACRAMENTO – Several fire departments across California have reason to celebrate this holiday season after recently receiving new fire engines from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES). The fire departments include Fresno City Fire Department (FD), Georgetown Fire Protection District (FPD) in El Dorado County, Montecito FPD in Santa Barbara County, Oakdale City FD in Stanislaus County, Sonoma Valley Fire and Rescue Authority in Sonoma County, Susanville FD in Lassen County, Tehama County FD, Vista FPD in San Diego County, and West Stanislaus County FPD.

"Stationing OES-owned fire engines in local departments statewide is an integral and valuable component of the State's ability to immediately respond to the needs of local governments during emergencies," said OES Director Henry Renteria. "Local agencies benefit from having the added emergency response capability in their day-to-day operations, and the State benefits from having the resources readily available to fight major fires and disasters in the region."

On a three-year cycle, OES presents select city and county fire departments and districts throughout California with fully equipped fire engines. These engines replace state-owned ones that had been in these departments for nearly 20 years. During this latest cycle, OES has replaced nine fire engines and will continue until they have distributed 21, at a total cost of \$5.8 million.

As part of an agreement with OES, the fire departments that receive these state-of-the-art fire engines are required to dispatch personnel with these vehicles whenever ordered by OES to any emergency or disaster situation in the state. In return, the departments are allowed specified use of the engines within their daily operations.

The OES fleet, which is spread throughout the state at various strategic locations, currently consists of 110 fire engines and 12 water tenders. In the 2005/06 budget, however, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger increased fire engine funding by \$5 million, allowing OES to increase the number of engines to 129. These 19 additional engines, scheduled to be distributed in 2007, will further the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission goal of increasing the OES fleet to 250.

For photos or B-roll of OES fire engines, call the OES Public Information Office at 916-845-8400.

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services is responsible for coordinating state agencies' response to major disasters in support of local government. OES is also tasked with ensuring the state is ready to respond to and recover from natural, manmade, and war-caused emergencies, and for assisting local governments in their emergency preparedness, response and recovery efforts.

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